

Brush III was completed and placed in service in 2003.

A truck committee was appointed to look into replacing Rescue 18. Because of the committee's foresight, after thinking about taking R-18 to a local body shop to have it repaired, Saulsbury was contacted about the cracks in the body. Because of that phone call, the truck is undergoing an extensive refurbishment of the rescue body at no cost to us. This should make a significant difference in selling R-18.

We have applied for over \$90,000 in grants just on the fire/rescue side of the department. Our FEMA application has progressed further than any of our previous ones.

This has all been accomplished by a great team effort. Our goal should be to continue to move forward. Thank you.

The Clifford Township Community Alliance would like to first thank the following. The Phillips and Bostjancic families for their help in the Luminary Lighting this year. Along with Billy and Patty Walker for their cash donation to our group. These names were missed from last month's article. We thank them and everyone who helped in any way.

The Alliance is ever grateful to Sally Fischbeck for her continuing commitment to tracking down information and photos pertaining to the township.

The following is an article

Sally has written about the history of the Clifford Creamery.

Well into the twentieth century, Clifford Township was predominately a farming community with numerous small family dairy farms. An important place of business for these farmers was the Clifford Creamery, built by the Dairymen's League, date unknown. The Clifford Creamery circa 1920 shows what looks to be a different structure from the building of the Creamery from 1913. It is not known whether the first structure was destroyed or incorporated into the second structure.

Before some homes in the Clifford area had running water, people would get milk cans filled with hot water at the creamery to bring home for doing the wash and taking baths. Monday was a particularly busy day for people getting hot water for laundry! A soft coal furnace ran a steam pump and this steam was used to heat the water to boiling. The water came from a drilled artisan well inside the creamery building.

Early on, the creamery was a processing plant, making products such as cheese and butter. Ice cut during the winter from the "Creamery Pond" (slightly up the hill and across the road) was stored in the far left section of the building before refrigeration was available.

Individual farmers or truckers hauled milk to the plant daily. Farmers marked their milk cans with preassigned numbers, so the proper accounts could be credited and the cans returned. Approximately 200 cans of milk were processed daily. For example, a local man in the late 1950's hauled approximately 120 cans of milk from 20 farmers to the creamery daily. Each can weighed approximately 100 pounds; 85 pounds of milk. This man loaded

the cans onto the truck, unloaded the cans at the creamery and then reloaded the cleaned cans to return to the farmers. This equates to lifting well over 12 tons per day!

When the cans arrived at the creamery, the milk was dumped into one of two tanks on a scale. While one tank was draining (its contents already weighed and recorded), then other was being filled to get weighed. The empty milk cans and tops would then be put on a conveyor belt to go through a cleaning/sterilization process. This process required at least four workers; two at the scales, one recording the weights, and one person overseeing the washing. The collected milk was pumped into the second story for temporary storage in two large tanks before being loaded into tanker trucks.

The Clifford plant was idle for a while in the late 30's and early 40's. During this time, farmers would have to take their milk to other places, including Russell's Dairy in Carbondale, famous for their ice cream.

The Clemo Milk Products Co. bought the Clifford Creamery circa 1943, converting it into a plant that produced powdered milk at an amazing rate of 4200